Shortage of oilseeds

574. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of oilseeds has improved in the country after the launching of Technology Mission on Oilseeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that still there is a shortage of oilseeds in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The production of oilseeds has improved since the launching of Technology Mission on Oilseeds in 1986. However, there is still a shortage of oilseeds resulting into and import of edible oils though the imports have been substantially cut down, in the recent years because of the improvement in oilseeds production. The level of production and imports in the recent years can be seen from the following table:

Year	Production of oilseeds (lakh tonnes)	Import of edible oils (lakh tonnes)
1986-87 . . .	112·7	14·97
1987-88 . . .	126·5	18·19
1988-89 . . .	178·8	3·73
1989-90 . . .	169·0	**

(likely production)

During the current year, the imports will be closely monitored and shall be made taking into account the availability of indigenous production of oilseeds.

2. The Government would continue to support the farmers with technology, inputs and remunerative price for oilseeds during the 8th plan with the objective of achieving near self-reliance in edible oils by the year 1994-95.

National Policy on workers engaged in building and construction activities

575. SHRI N.E. BALARAM :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for adopting a National Policy on Wages, employment and protection of the workers engaged in building and construction activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this direction; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring out a new central legislation for the purpose, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The need for a Central legislation for providing various protective measures to workers engaged in building and construction activities was the subject matter of a national seminar held recently at New Delhi. The various recommendations made to this seminar relating to the necessity of a Central legislation and various protective measures to be provided under this Central legislation are under consideration.